

#### **Strengthening Apostolic Families Everywhere**



"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:" 1 Corinthians 15:3-4



### **Easter: The Gospel Story**

Too many times we tend to associate Easter with gifts, clothing and games for ourselves. This vision fits really well with the world's view of this holiday. We, as Christians, can be equally guilty of failing to really look at the cross of Calvary, the borrowed tomb, and the Resurrection and absorb its meaning for us.

Why was there a Calvary? Jesus was not forced onto the cross. He willingly chose the shame and reproach that the cross would bring him, recognizing that this was the only way to purchase our Salvation. Wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities, He was hung to die on an old rugged cross. Only His Blood was capable of redeeming us from the awful grip that sin had on humanity. He, being sinless and blameless, became the perfect Passover lamb that would atone for our souls.

The Pharisees wished the story had ended there. Satan wished the story had ended there. But Jesus had other plans! Plans to redeem mankind through the shedding of his blood, and plans to renew his relationship with them.

"And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission." Hebrews 9:22

His battered body was placed in a borrowed tomb, and a rock sealed the entrance. This was to keep others out, but it could not keep our Savior in! Three days later He arose, victorious over death, hell, and the grave!

Our redemption had been secured by our Creator!

The Gospel is beautifully displayed as the death, burial, and resurrection of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. Today, you can apply this same gospel to your life! The same Spirit that filled Jesus and brought him from the tomb can also fill you!

Family Prayer: Jesus, thank You for the price that You paid on Calvary. Thank You for the great Love that You displayed when You carried our sins undeservingly. Help me to have that same Resurrection Spirit working in my life. In Jesus' name!

Includes Family Activities



Want more? Scroll down for Bonus Pages

### **Family Activities**



# Resurrection Garden

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You will need: A large terra cotta saucer, potting soil, small terra cotta pot, large rock, small rocks, quick growing grass seed, twigs (for crosses), twine.

First put a small amount of soil in saucer. Lay the small pot on its side to represent the tomb. Cover the dish with potting soil, heaping it up over the "tomb." Use small rocks to create a path to the tomb. Place the large rock to the side of the "tomb." Sprinkle grass seed over the dirt and spray lightly with water. Form three crosses from the twigs and twine. Sit in a sunny spot. Spray the garden lightly every day with water to help the grass grow. You will have a visual reminder of the resurrection story!

### Let's talk!

This week's devotional shows you how Jesus' death, burial and resurrection, over 2000 years ago, applies to our lives today. Has your family obeyed the gospel? This is a great opportunity to review Acts 2:38 with your children, especially those who have not yet fulfilled every step, so that they can see the importance in every part.

We want everyone to know the Plan of Salvation! There are tools available to help us teach our family, friends, and community the Word of God. There are many Bible Studies of various lengths available that you might consider using. Individually, or as a family, you can make a difference in someone's life by spreading the light of the Gospel.

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## Let's research some of the events that took place during Jesus' last week on earth

Zechariah 9:9 and Matthew 21:1-7 describe a triumphant what?		
What takes place in	Matthew 26:18-28?	
What chapter of Ma	tthew reflects Jesus praying in the garder	n of Gethsemane?
Who betrays Jesus?	Chapter 26 of which gospel goes into de	etail about this betrayal?
The Old and New T What was plucked i	Testament detail the beating of Jesus in Isaiah 50:6?	
	s visage was so marred more than any man?	
Jesus was	and	in John 19:1-2.
What took place in l	Mathew 26:62-68?	
	II Corinthians 5:21 describe the power of, but I Corinthians 15:3-4 and A!	
Find a scripture tha	t tells of Jesus appearing after His resurre	ection and commit it to memory.

## **The Easter Story**

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BLAMELESS
CALVARY
CHRISTIANS
DEATH
EASTER
PLANS
REMISSION
RESURRECTION
SHEDDING
SINLESS
TRANSGRESSIONS
VICTORIOUS

BURIAL
CROSS
MANKIND
REPENTANCE
SAVIOUR
TOMB

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<sup>\*</sup>Use the remaining letters to solve the hidden message which will complete the puzzle title\*

